

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 191610 ACTION PARIS OTTAWA TOKYO
PEKING SAN JOSE QUITO MEXICO SANTO DOMINGO SEOUL TAIPEI
26 SEPT

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652:ADS, DECLAS 12/31/73

TAGS:ETRD,FR, CA, JA, CH, MX, CS, DR, EC, TS, KS

SUBJECT:MUSHROOMS

1. IN A SEPTEMBER 25, 1973 PRESS RELEASE, THE FOOD AND DRUG
ADMINISTRATION ORDERED AN EXAMINATION OF ALL CANNED MUSH-
ROOMS STILL IN WAREHOUSE. IN RECENT MONTHS, FIVE INSTANCES
OF TYPE-B BOTULINUM CONTAMINATION FORCED THE EFFECTED
PROCESSORS TO RECALL SHIPMENTS. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES,
THE FDA DECIDED TO GO FORWARD WITH A BLANKET EXAMINATION
OF ALL WAREHOUSE STOCKS. IMPORTED MUSHROOMS ARE INCLUDED IN
THE FDA INSPECTION PROGRAM WHICH IS EXPECTED TO REQUIRE
TWO MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

2. IN PREVIOUS INSTANCES OF BOTULINUM CONTAMINATION AFFECT-
ING OTHER CANNED FOODS, DOMESTIC SALES DECLINED SHARPLY
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AFTER THE INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT. THE SCOPE OF THE PRESENT

EXAMINATION MAKES IT LIKELY THAT THIS WILL BE THE CASE WITH
CANNED MUSHROOMS.

3. THE EMBASSY SHOULD INFORM APPROPRIATE HOST GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS OF THE FDA INSPECTION PROGRAM. IT SHOULD BE MADE
CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT IMPORTS OF CANNED MUSHROOMS ARE NOT
REPEAT NOT BEING RESTRICTED.

4. FOR PEKING: WE LEAVE IT TO YOUR DISCRETION WHETHER TO
RAISE THIS ISSUE WITH APPROPRIATE PRC AUTHORITIES. FYI:
U.S. IMPORTS OF CANNED MUSHROOMS FROM PRC DURING FIRST SIX
MONTHS OF 1973 AMOUNTED TO 94 THOUSAND POUNDS WORTH 46.6
THOUSAND DOLLARS. END FYI.

5. A COPY OF THE FDA ANNOUNCEMENT BEING POUCHED. RUSH
UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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